

CHAPTER 2F. SPECIFIC SERVICE SIGNS

Section 2F.01 Eligibility

Standard:

Specific Service signs shall be defined as guide signs that provide road users with business identification and directional information for eligible services.

Guidance:

The use of Specific Service signs should be limited to areas primarily rural in character or to areas where adequate sign spacing can be maintained.

Option:

Where an engineering study determines a need, Specific Service signs may be used on any class of highways.

Guidance:

Specific Service signs should not be installed at an interchange where the road user cannot conveniently reenter the freeway or expressway and continue in the same direction of travel.

Standard:

Eligible service facilities shall comply with laws concerning the provisions of public accommodations without regard to race, religion, color, age, sex, or national origin, and laws concerning the licensing and approval of service facilities.

Guidance:

Distances to eligible services should not exceed 5 km (3 mi) in either direction.

Option:

If, within the 5 km (3 mi) limit, facilities for the services being considered are not available or choose not to participate in the program, the limit of eligibility may be extended in 5 km (3 mi) increments until one or more facilities for the services being considered chooses to participate, or until 25 km (15 mi) is reached, whichever comes first.

Guidance:

If State or local agencies elect to provide Specific Service signing, there should be a statewide policy for such signing and criteria for the availability of the various types of services. The criteria should consider the following:

A. To qualify for a GAS logo panel, a business should have:

1. Vehicle services including gas and/or alternative fuels, oil, and water;
2. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water;
3. Continuous operation at least 12 hours per day, 7 days per week; and
4. Public telephone.

B. To qualify for a FOOD logo panel, a business should have:

1. Licensing or approval, where required;
2. Continuous operations to serve three meals per day, at least 6 days per week;
3. Adequate seating capacity;
4. Public telephone; and
5. Modern sanitary facilities.

C. To qualify for a LODGING logo panel, a business should have:

1. Licensing or approval, where required;
2. Adequate sleeping accommodations; and
3. Public telephone.

D. To qualify for a CAMPING logo panel, a business should have:

1. Licensing or approval, where required;
2. Adequate parking accommodations; and
3. Modern sanitary facilities and drinking water.

Section 2F.02 Application

Standard:

A Specific Service sign shall display the word message GAS, FOOD, LODGING, or CAMPING, an appropriate directional legend such as the word message EXIT XX, NEXT RIGHT, SECOND RIGHT (for double-exit interchanges), or directional arrows, and the related logo sign panels. No more than three types of services shall be represented on any sign or sign assembly. If three types of services are shown on one sign, then the logo panels shall be limited to two for each service (for a total of six logo panels). The legend and logo panels applicable to a service type shall be displayed such that the road user will not associate them with another service type on the same sign. No service type shall appear on more than one sign. The signs shall have a blue background, a white border, and white legends of upper-case letters, numbers, and arrows.

Guidance:

The Specific Service signs should be located to take advantage of natural terrain, to have the least impact on the scenic environment, and to avoid visual conflict with other signs within the highway right-of-way.

Option:

GAS, FOOD, LODGING, and CAMPING signs may be used on any class of highway.

Support:

Typical Specific Service signs are shown in Figure 2F-1. Typical sign locations are shown in Figure 2F-2.

Section 2F.03 Logos and Logo Panels

Standard:

A logo shall be either an identification symbol/trademark or a word message. Each logo shall be placed on a separate logo panel which shall be attached to the Specific Service sign. Symbols or trademarks used alone for a logo shall be reproduced in the colors and general shape consistent with customary use, and any integral legend shall be in proportionate size. A logo that resembles an official traffic control device shall not be used.

Figure 2F-1. Typical Specific Service Signs



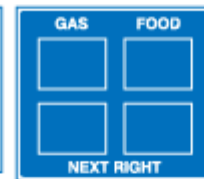
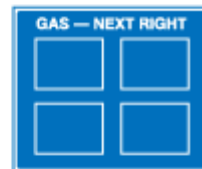
SINGLE-EXIT INTERCHANGE
(ONE SERVICE)



SINGLE-EXIT INTERCHANGE
(TWO SERVICES)



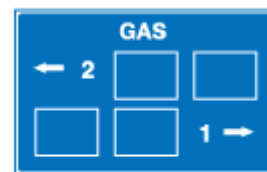
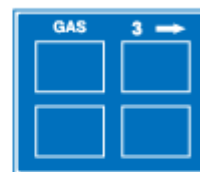
DOUBLE-EXIT INTERCHANGE



UNNUMBERED EXIT INTERCHANGE



LOGO PANEL



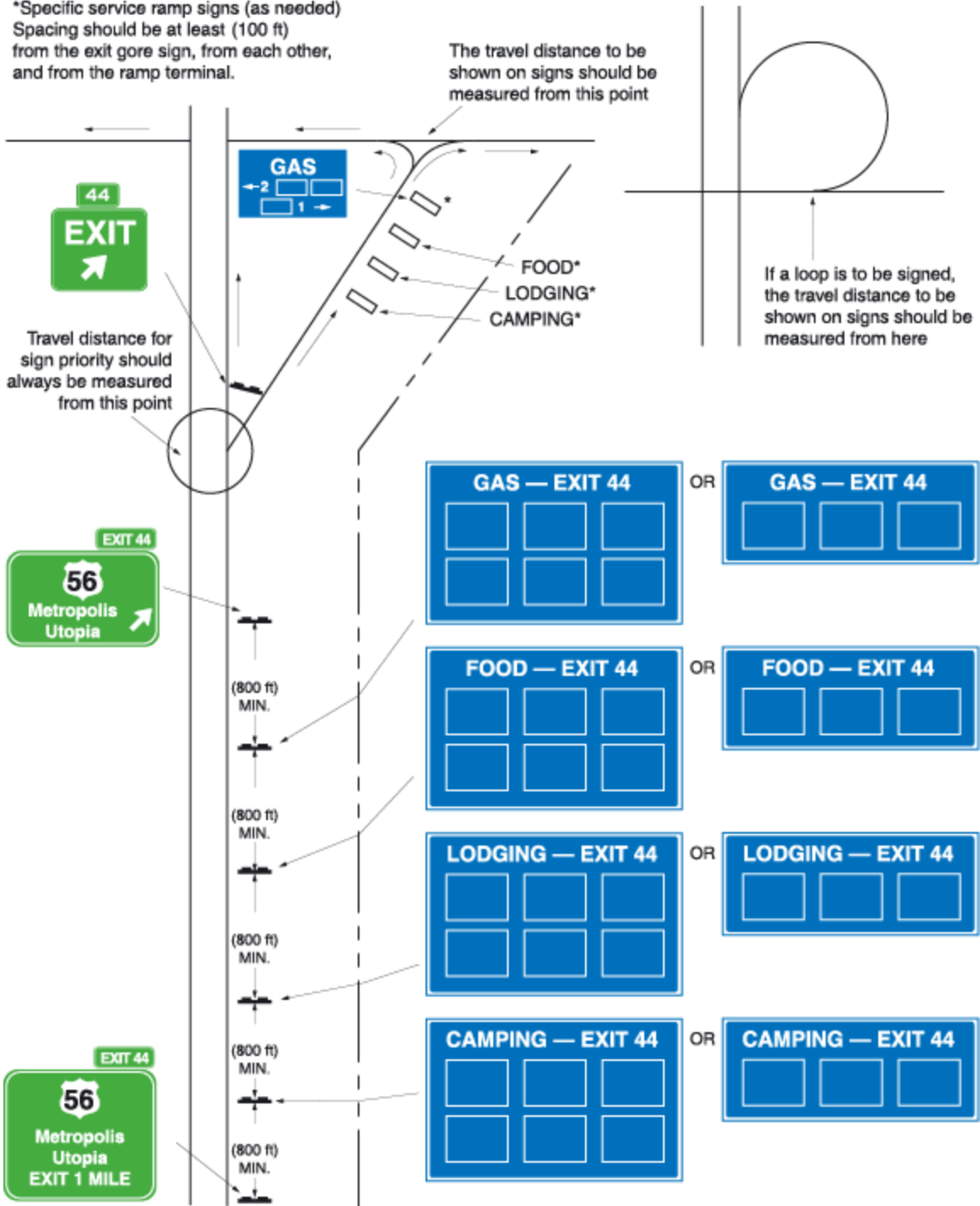
RAMP

Note: Directional arrows
and distance may be
used when appropriate

Figure 2F-2. Typical Specific Service Sign Locations

*Specific service ramp signs (as needed)
Spacing should be at least (100 ft)
from the exit gore sign, from each other,
and from the ramp terminal.

The travel distance to be shown on signs should be measured from this point



Guidance:

A word message logo, not using a symbol or trademark, should have a blue background with white legend and border.

Option:

A portion at the bottom of a GAS logo panel may be used to display the legends for "DIESEL" and "24 HOURS."

Section 2F.04 Number and Size of Logos and Signs

Guidance:

Sign sizes should be determined by the amount and height of legend and the number and size of logo panels attached to the sign. All logo panels on a sign should be the same size.

Standard:

Each Specific Service sign or sign assembly shall be limited to no more than six logo panels. There shall be no more than four logo panels for one of the two service types on the same sign or sign assembly.

Support:

Section 2F.08 contains information regarding Specific Service signs for double-exit interchanges.

Standard:

Each logo panel attached to a Specific Service sign shall have a rectangular shape with a width longer than the height. A logo panel shall not exceed 1200 mm (48 in) in width and 900 mm (36 in) in height. A logo panel for signs on ramps shall not exceed 600 mm (24 in) in width and 450 mm (18 in) in height. The vertical and horizontal spacing between logo panels shall not exceed 200 mm (8 in) and 300 mm (12 in), respectively.

Support:

Sections 2A.15, 2E.14, and 2E.15 contain information regarding borders, interline spacing, and edge spacing.

Section 2F.05 Size of Lettering

Standard:

All letters and numerals on Specific Service signs, except on the logo panels, shall be a minimum height of 250 mm (10 in), and 150 mm (6 in) for signs on ramps.

Guidance:

Any legend on a symbol/trademark should be proportional to the size of the symbol/trademark.

Section 2F.06 Signs at Interchanges

Standard:

The Specific Service signs shall be installed between the previous interchange and at least 240 m (800 ft) in advance of the Exit Direction sign at the interchange from which the services are available (see Figure 2F-2).

Guidance:

There should be at least a 240 m (800 ft) spacing between the Specific Service signs, except for Specific Service ramp signs. However, excessive spacing is not desirable. Specific Service ramp signs should be spaced at least 30 m (100 ft) from the exit gore sign, from each other, and from the ramp terminal.

Section 2F.07 Single-Exit Interchanges

Standard:

At single-exit interchanges, the name of the service type followed by the exit number shall be displayed on one line above the logo panels. At unnumbered interchanges, the directional legend NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) shall be used.

At single-exit interchanges, Specific Service ramp signs shall be installed along the ramp or at the ramp terminal for facilities that have logo panels displayed along the main roadway if the facilities are not readily visible from the ramp terminal. Directions to the service facilities shall be indicated by arrows on the ramp signs. Logo panels on Specific Service ramp signs shall be duplicates of those displayed on the Specific Service signs located in advance of the interchange, but shall be reduced in size.

Guidance:

Specific Service ramp signs should include distances to the service facilities.

Option:

The reduced size logo panels and signs also may be installed along the crossroad.

Section 2F.08 Double-Exit Interchanges

Guidance:

At double-exit interchanges, the Specific Service signs should consist of two sections, one for each exit (see Figure 2F-1).

Standard:

At a double-exit interchange, the top section shall display the logo panels for the first exit and the bottom section shall display the logo panels for the second exit. The name of the service type and the exit number shall be displayed above the logo panels in each section. At unnumbered interchanges, the word message NEXT RIGHT (LEFT) and SECOND RIGHT (LEFT) shall be used in place of the exit number. The number of logo panels on the sign (total of both sections) or the sign assembly shall be limited to six.

Option:

At a double-exit interchange, where a service is to be signed for only one exit, one section of the Specific Service sign may be omitted, or a single exit interchange sign may be used. Signs on ramps and crossroads as described in Section 2F.07 may be used at a double-exit interchange.

Section 2F.09 Signs at Intersections

Standard:

If Specific Service signs for ramps are used at intersections on expressways, the name of each type of service shall be displayed above its logo panel(s), together with an appropriate legend such as a directional arrow and distance on the same line.

Option:

If Specific Service signs for ramps are used at intersections on expressways, other applicable directional legend or action message may be displayed below instead of above the logo panels.

Section 2F.10 Signing Policy

Guidance:

Each highway agency that elects to use Specific Service signs should establish a signing policy that includes, as a minimum, the guidelines of Section 2F.01 and at least the following criteria:

- A. Selection of eligible businesses;
- B. Distances to eligible services;
- C. The use of logo panels, legends, and signs conforming with this Manual and State design requirements;
- D. Removal or covering of logo panels during off seasons for business that operate on a seasonal basis;
- E. The circumstances, if any, under which Specific Service signs may be used in nonrural areas; and
- F. Determination of the costs to businesses for initial permits, installations, annual maintenance, and removal of logo panels.

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CHAPTER 2G. -----DELETED-----

CHAPTER 2H. RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST AREA SIGNS

Section 2H.01 Scope

Support:

Recreational or cultural interest areas are attractions or traffic generators that are open to the general public for the purpose of play, amusement, or relaxation. Recreational attractions include such facilities as parks, campgrounds, gaming facilities, and ski areas, while examples of cultural attractions include museums, art galleries, and historical buildings or sites.

The purpose of recreation and cultural interest area signs is to guide road users to a general area and then to specific facilities or activities within the area.

Option:

Recreational and cultural interest area signs that depict significant traffic generators may be used on expressway and freeways where there is direct access to these areas as discussed in Section 2H.09.

Recreational and cultural interest area signs may be used off the road network, as appropriate.

Section 2H.02 Application of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Signs

Support:

Standards for signing recreational or cultural interest areas are subdivided into two different types of signs: (1) symbol signs and (2) destination guide signs.

Guidance:

When highway agencies decide to provide recreational and cultural interest area signing, these agencies should have a policy for such signing. The policy should establish signing criteria for the eligibility of the various types of services, accommodations, and facilities. These signs should not be used where they might be confused with other traffic control signs.

Option:

Recreational and cultural interest area signs may be used on any road to direct persons to facilities, structures, and places, and to identify various services available to the general public. These signs may also be used in recreational or cultural interest areas for signing nonvehicular events and amenities such as trails, structures, and facilities.

Section 2H.03 Regulatory and Warning Signs

Standard:

All regulatory and warning signs installed on public roads and streets within recreational and cultural interest areas shall conform to the requirements of Chapters 2A, 2B, and 2C.

Section 2H.04 General Design Requirements for Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs

Standard:

Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs shall be square or rectangular in shape and shall have a white symbol or message and white border on a brown background. The symbols shall be grouped into the following usage and series categories (see the "Standard Highway Signs" book for design details):

- A. General Information (RG Series)**
- B. Motorist Services (RM Series)**
- C. Accommodation Services (RA Series)**
- D. Land Recreation (RL series)**
- E. Water Recreation (RW Series), and**
- F. Winter Recreation (RS Series)**

Support:

Table 2H-1 contains a listing of the symbols within each series category. Drawings for these symbols are found in the "Standard Highway Signs" book.

Option:

Mirror images of symbols may be used where the reverse image will better convey the message.

Table 2H-1. Category Chart for Symbols

General Information

Automobile	RG-010
Bear Viewing Area	RG-020
Dam	RG-030
Deer Viewing Area	RG-040
Drinking Water	RG-050
Environmental Study Area	RG-060
Falling Rocks *	RG-070
Firearms	RG-080
Fish Hatchery	RG-090
Information	RG-100
Leashed Pets *	RG-110
Lighthouse	RG-120
Litter Container	RG-130
Lookout Tower	RG-140
Ped Xing *	RG-150
Point of Interest	RG-160
Ranger Station	RG-170
Smoking *	RG-180
Truck	RG-190
Tunnel	RG-200
Dog	RG-240
Seaplane	RG-260

Motorist Services

Camping (Tent)	RM-010
Camping (Trailer)	RM-020
Ferry	RM-030
First Aid	RM-040
Food	RM-050
Gas	RM-060
Grocery Store	RM-070
Handicapped	RM-080
Lodging	RM-090
Mechanic	RM-100
Post Office	RM-110
Picnic Area	RM-120
Picnic Shelter	RM-130
Rest Room	RM-140
Telephone	RM-150
Trailer Sanitary Statio	RM-160
Viewing Area	RM-170
Motor Home	RM-200
Group Camping	RM-210
Group Picnicking	RM-220

Accommodation Services

Airport	RA-010
Bus Stop	RA-020
Campfire	RA-030
Elevator *	RA-040
Kennel	RA-050
Laundry	RA-060
Locker *	RA-070
Parking	RA-080
Rest Room (Men) *	RA-090
Rest Room (Women) *	RA-100
Shelter (Sleeping) *	RA-110
Shelter (Trail) *	RA-120
Showers *	RA-130
Family Rest Room *	RA-150
Helicopter	RA-160

Land Recreation

Amphitheater	RL-010
Climbing	RL-020
Climbing (Rock)	RL-030
Hunting	RL-040
Playground	RL-050
Rock Collecting	RL-060
Spelunking	RL-070
Stable	RL-080
Trail (Bicycle)	RL-090
Trail (Hiking)	RL-100
Trail (Horse)	RL-110
Trail (Interpretive, Auto)	RL-120
Trail (Interpretive, Ped.)	RL-130
Trail/Road (4 WD Veh.)	RL-140
Trail (Trail Bike)	RL-150
Tramway	RL-160
All-Terrain Vehicle	RL-170
Archer	RL-190
Hang Glider	RL-210

Water Recreation

Boat Tours	RW-010
Canoeing	RW-020
Diving	RW-030
Diving (Scuba)	RW-040
Fishing	RW-050
Marine Recreation Area	RW-060
Motorboating	RW-070
Ramp (Launch)	RW-080
Rowboating	RW-090
Sailboating	RW-100
Skiing (water)	RW-110
Surfing	RW-120
Swimming	RW-130
Wading	RW-140
Fishing Pier	RW-160
Hand Launch	RW-170
Kayak	RW-190
Wind Surf	RW-210

Winter Recreation

Skating (ice)	RS-010
Ski Jumping	RS-020
Skiing (Bobbing)	RS-030
Skiing (Cross Country)	RS-040
Skiing (Downhill)	RS-050
Sledding	RS-060
Snowmobiling	RS-070
Snowshoeing	RS-080
Winter Recreation Area	RS-090
Chairlift	RS-100

* For Non-Road Use

Section 2H.05 Symbol Sign Sizes

Guidance:

Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs should be 600 x 600 mm (24 x 24 in). Where greater visibility or emphasis is needed, larger sizes should be used. Symbol sign enlargements should be in 150 mm (6 in) increments.

Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs should be 750 x 750 mm (30 x 30 in) when used on expressways or freeways.

Option:

A smaller size of 450 x 450 mm (18 x 18 in) may be used on low-speed, low-volume roadways and on nonroad applications.

Section 2H.06 Use of Educational Plaques

Guidance:

Educational plaques should accompany all initial installations of recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs. The educational plaque should remain in place for at least 3 years after the initial installation. If used, the educational plaque should be the same width as the symbol sign.

Option:

Symbol signs that are readily recognizable by the public may be installed without educational plaques.

Support:

Figure 2H-1 illustrates some typical uses of educational plaques.

Section 2H.07 Use of Prohibitive Slash

Standard:

The red diagonal slash, if used on a recreational and cultural interest area sign, shall be placed from the upper left corner to the lower right corner of the sign face. Requirements for retroreflection of the red slash shall be the same as those requirements for legends, symbols, and borders.

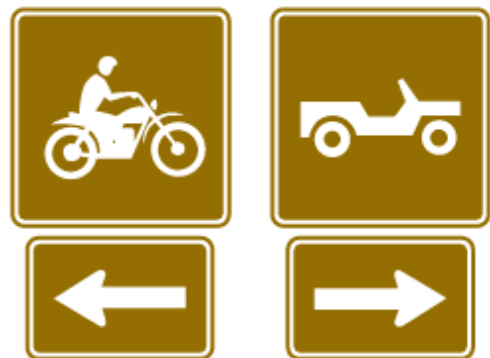
Figure 2H-1. Typical Use of Educational Plaques, Prohibitory Slashes, and Arrows



a) Directional sign with arrow



b) Directional signs with arrow



c) Directional signs with arrows



d) Directional sign with secondary symbol



e) Management symbols with prohibitive slashes and educational plaques



f) Directional sign with educational plaque and arrow

Option:

Where it is necessary to indicate a restriction within a recreational or cultural interest area, a red diagonal slash may be used to indicate that the activity is prohibited.

Support:

Figure 2H-1 illustrates some typical uses of prohibitive slashes.

Section 2H.08 Placement of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs

Standard:

If used, recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs shall be placed in accordance with the general requirements contained in Chapter 2A. The symbol(s) shall be placed in the uppermost part of the sign assembly and the directional information shall be placed below the symbol(s).

Where the name of the recreational or cultural interest area facility or activity is shown on a general directional guide sign and a symbol is used, the symbol shall be placed below the name (see Figure 2H-2).

Recreational and cultural interest area symbols installed for nonroad use shall be placed in accordance with the general sign position requirements of the authority having jurisdiction.

Support:

Figure 2H-3 illustrates typical height and lateral mounting positions. Figure 2H-4 illustrates typical placement of symbol signs within a recreational or cultural interest area. Figures 2H-5 and 2H-6 illustrate some of the symbols that can be used.

Guidance:

The number of symbols used in a single sign assembly should not exceed four.

Option:

Symbols for recreational or cultural interest areas may be used as legend components for a directional sign assembly. The symbols may be used singularly, or in groups of two, three, or four on a single sign assembly (see Figures 2H-1, 2H-3, and 2H-4). Smaller-size secondary symbols (see Figure 2H-1) may be placed beneath the primary symbols, where needed.

**Figure 2H-2. Typical General Directional Guide Signs
for Conventional Roads**



Figure 2H-3. Height and Lateral Position of Signs Located Within Recreational and Cultural Interest Areas

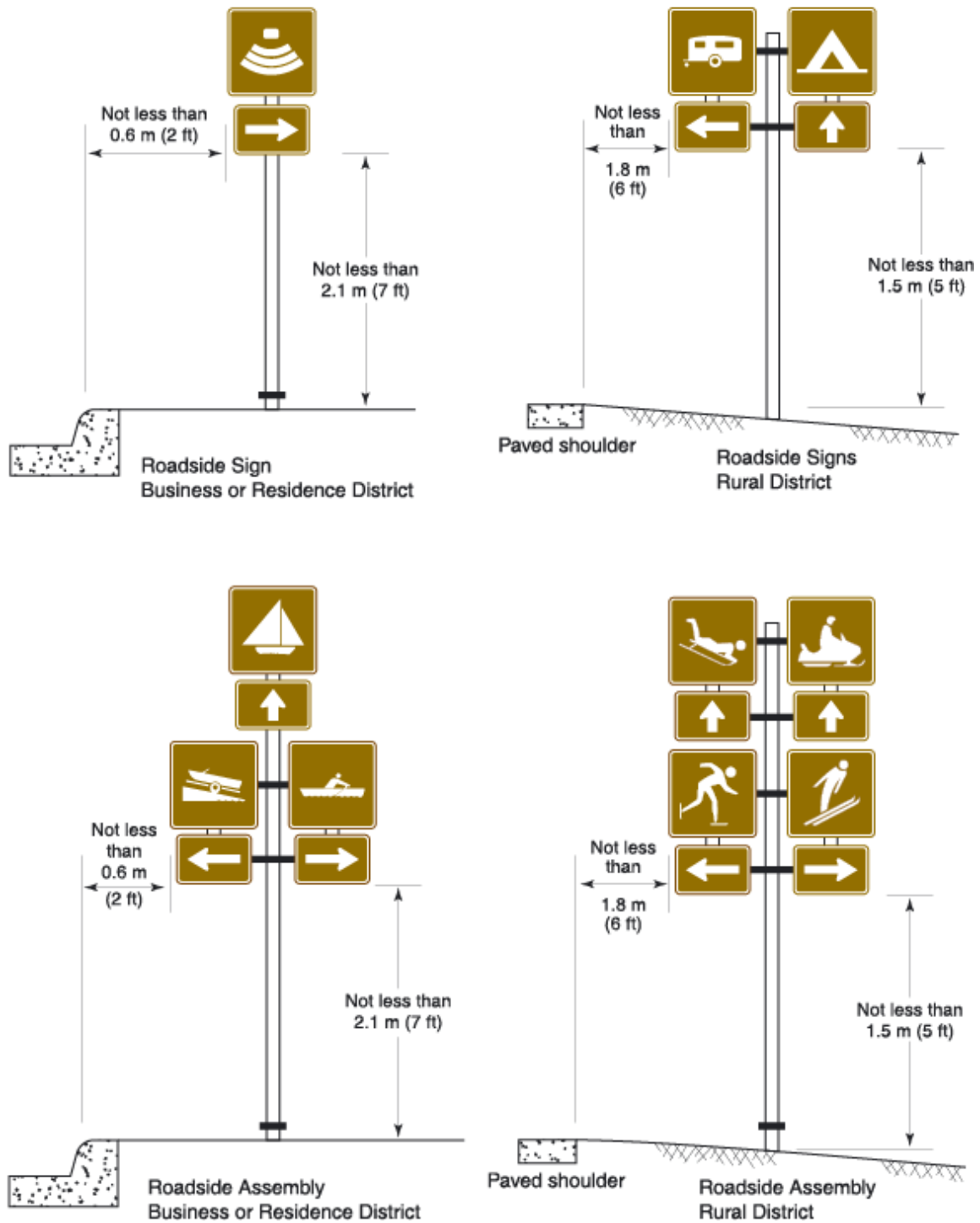


Figure 2H-4. Typical Symbol Signing Layout

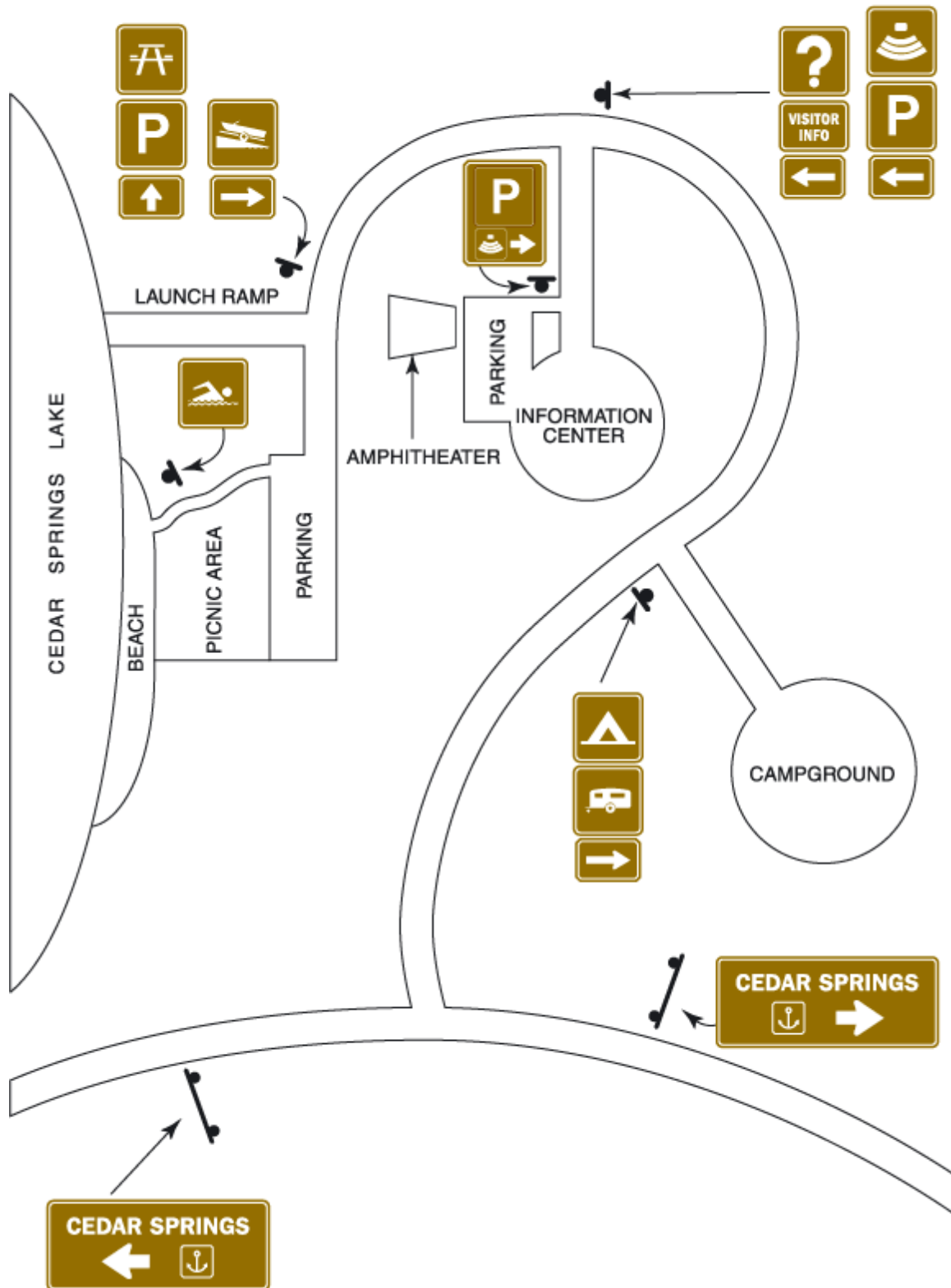


Figure 2H-5. Modifications to Existing Symbols



RG-130
Litter Container



RG-170
Ranger Station



RM-120
Picnic Area



RA-060
Laundry



RA-110
Sleeping Shelter



RL-130
Interpretive Trail
(recommended for use
with educational plaque)

Figure 2H-6. New Recreation and Cultural Interest Area Symbols



Section 2H.09 Destination Guide Signs

Guidance:

When recreational or cultural interest area destinations are shown on supplemental guide signs, the sign should be rectangular or trapezoidal in shape. The order of preference for use of shapes and colors should be as follows: (1) rectangular with a white legend and border on a green background; (2) rectangular with a white legend and border on a brown background; or (3) trapezoidal with a white legend and border on a brown background.

Standard:

Whenever the trapezoidal shape is used, the color combination shall be a white legend and border on a brown background.

Option:

White-on-brown destination guide signs may be posted at the first point where an access or crossroad intersects a highway where recreational or cultural interest areas are a significant destination along conventional roads, expressways, or freeways. White-on-brown supplemental guide signs may be used along conventional roads, expressways, or freeways to direct road users to recreational or cultural interest areas. Where access or crossroads lead exclusively to the recreational or cultural interest area, the advance guide sign and the exit direction sign may be white-on-brown.

Standard:

Linear parkway-type highways that merely function as arterial connectors without providing access to recreational or cultural interest areas shall not qualify for the use of white-on-brown destination guide signs. Directional guide signs used on these highways shall conform to Chapter 2D.

All gore signs shall have a white legend and border on a green background. The background color of the interchange exit number panel shall match the background color of the guide sign. Design characteristics of conventional road, expressway, or freeway guide signs shall conform to Chapter 2D or 2E except as specified in this Section for color combination.

The advance guide sign and the Exit Direction sign shall retain the white-on-green color combination where the crossroad leads to a destination other than a recreational or cultural interest area.

Support:

Figure 2H-2 illustrates destination guide signs commonly used for identifying recreational or cultural interest areas or facilities.

CHAPTER 2I. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SIGNING

Section 2I.01 Emergency Management

Guidance:

Contingency planning for an emergency evacuation should be considered by all State and local jurisdictions and should consider the use of all applicable roadways.

In the event of a disaster where highways that cannot be used will be closed, a successful contingency plan should account for the following elements: a controlled operation of certain designated highways, the establishment of traffic operations for the expediting of essential traffic, and the provision of emergency centers for civilian aid.

Section 2I.02 Design of Emergency Management Signs

Standard:

Emergency Management signs shall be used to guide and control highway traffic during an emergency.

Emergency Management signs shall not permanently displace any of the standard signs that are normally applicable.

Advance planning for transportation operations' emergencies shall be the responsibility of State and local authorities. The Federal Government shall provide guidance to the States as necessitated by changing circumstances.

Guidance:

As conditions permit, the Emergency Management signs should be replaced or augmented by standard signs.

The background of Emergency Management signs should be retroreflective.

Because Emergency Management signs might be needed in large numbers for temporary use during an emergency, consideration should be given to their fabrication from any light and economical material that can serve through the emergency period.

Option:

Any Emergency Management sign may be accompanied by a standard triangular plaque for marking areas contaminated by biological and chemical warfare agents and radioactive fallout.

Section 2I.03 EVACUATION ROUTE Sign (EM-1)

Standard:

The EVACUATION ROUTE (EM-1) sign shall be circular, having a minimum outside diameter of 450 mm (18 in), carrying a directional arrow and the legend EVACUATION ROUTE.

Option:

An approved Emergency Management symbol may appear near the bottom of the sign with a diameter of 87 mm (3.5 in).

Standard:

The legend, arrow, symbol, and border shall be white on a blue background. At least the arrow and border shall be retroreflective. The arrow designs shall include a straight vertical arrow pointing upward, a straight horizontal arrow pointing to the left or right, or a bent arrow pointing to the left or right for advance warning of a turn.

If used, the EVACUATION ROUTE sign, with the appropriate arrow, shall be installed 45 to 90 m (150 to 300 ft) in advance of, and at, any turn in an approved evacuation route. The sign shall also be installed elsewhere for straight-ahead confirmation where needed.

If used in urban areas, the EVACUATION ROUTE sign shall be mounted at the right-hand side of the roadway, not less than 2.1 m (7 ft) above the top of the curb, and at least 0.3 m (1 ft) back from the face of the curb. If used in rural areas, it shall be not less than 2.1 m (7 ft) above the pavement and 1.8 to 3 m (6 to 10 ft) to the right side of the roadway edge.

EVACUATION ROUTE signs shall not be placed where they will conflict with other signs. Where conflict in placement would occur between the EVACUATION ROUTE sign and a standard regulatory sign, the regulatory sign shall take precedence.

Option:

In case of conflict with guide or warning signs, the Emergency Management sign may take precedence.

Guidance:

Placement of EVACUATION ROUTE signs should be made under the supervision of the officials having jurisdiction over the placement of other traffic signs. Coordination.



EM-1
diameter



EM-2
(30 x 24 in)

R1-1



EM-3
(30 x 24 in)



EM-4
(26 x 30 in)



EM-5
(26 x 30 in)



EM-6a
(30 x 24 in)



EM-7b
(30 x 24 in)

with Emergency Management authorities and agreement between contiguous political entities should occur to assure continuity of routes.

Option:

The arrow may be a separate panel attached to the face of the sign.

Section 2I.04 AREA CLOSED Sign (EM-2)

Standard:

The AREA CLOSED (EM-2) sign shall be used to close a roadway in order to prohibit traffic from entering the area. It shall be installed on the shoulder as near as practical to the right edge of the roadway, or preferably, on a portable mounting or barricade partly or entirely in the roadway.

Guidance:

For best visibility, particularly at night, the sign height should not exceed 1.2 m (4 ft) from the pavement to the bottom of the sign. Unless adequate advance warning signs are used, it should not be placed to create a complete and unavoidable blocked route. Where feasible, the sign should be located at an intersection that provides a detour route.

Section 2I.05 TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT Sign (EM-3)

Standard:

The TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT (EM-3) sign shall be used to designate a location where an official traffic control point has been set up to impose such controls as are necessary to limit congestion, expedite emergency traffic, exclude unauthorized vehicles, or protect the public.

The sign shall be installed in the same manner as the AREA CLOSED sign (see Section 2I.04), and at the point where traffic must stop to be checked.

The standard STOP (R1-1) sign shall be used in conjunction with the TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT sign. The TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT sign shall consist of a black legend and border on a retroreflectorized white background.

Guidance:

The TRAFFIC CONTROL POINT sign should be mounted directly below the STOP sign.

Section 2I.06 MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED Sign (EM-4)

Option:

The MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED (EM-4) sign may be used on highways where conditions are such that it is prudent to evacuate or traverse an area as quickly as possible.

Where an existing Speed Limit (R2-1) sign is in a suitable location, the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign may conveniently be mounted directly over the face of the speed limit sign that it supersedes.

Support:

Since any speed zoning would be impractical under such emergency conditions, no minimum speed limit can be prescribed by the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign in numerical terms. Where traffic is supervised by a traffic control point, official instructions will usually be given verbally, and the sign will serve as an occasional reminder of the urgent need for maintaining the proper safe speed.

Guidance:

The sign should be installed as needed, in the same manner as other standard speed signs.

Standard:

If used in rural areas, the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign shall be mounted on the right side of the road with its lower edge not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) above the pavement, 1.8 to 3 m (6 to 10 ft) from the roadway edge. If used in urban areas, the height shall be not less than 2.1 m (7 ft), and the nearest edge of the sign shall be not less than 0.3 m (1 ft) back from the face of the curb.

Section 2I.07 ROAD (AREA) USE PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THRU TRAFFIC Sign (EM-5)

Support:

The intent of the ROAD (AREA) USE PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THRU TRAFFIC sign is to notify road users of the presence of the traffic control point so that those who do not have priority permits issued by designated authorities can take another route, or turn back, without making a needless trip and without adding to the screening load at the post. Local traffic, without permits, can proceed as far as the traffic control post.

Standard:

If used, the ROAD (AREA) USE PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THRU TRAFFIC (EM-5) sign shall be used at an intersection that is an entrance to a route on which a traffic control point is located.

If used, the sign shall be installed in a manner similar to that of the MAINTAIN TOP SAFE SPEED sign (see Section 2I.06).

Section 2I.08 Emergency Aid Center Signs (EM-6 Series)

Standard:

In the event of emergency, State and local authorities shall establish various centers for civilian relief, communication, medical service, and similar purposes. To guide the public to such centers a series of directional signs shall be used.

Emergency Aid Center (EM-6 series) signs shall carry the designation of the center and an arrow indicating the direction to the center. They shall be installed as needed, at intersections and elsewhere, on the right side of the roadway, at a height in urban areas of at least 2.1 m (7 ft), and not less than 0.3 m (1 ft) back from the face of the curb, and in rural areas at a height of 1.5 m (5 ft), 1.8 to 3 m (6 to 10 ft) from the roadway edge.

Emergency Aid Center signs shall carry one of the following legends, as appropriate, or others designating similar emergency facilities:

- A. MEDICAL CENTER (EM-6a)
- B. WELFARE CENTER (EM-6b)
- C. REGISTRATION CENTER (EM-6c)
- D. DECONTAMINATION CENTER (EM-6d)

Section 2I.09 Shelter Directional Signs (EM-7 Series)

Standard:

Shelter Directional (EM-7 Series) signs shall be used to direct the public to selected shelters that have been licensed and marked for emergency use.

The installation of Shelter Directional signs shall conform to established highway signing standards. Where used, the signs shall not be installed in competition with other necessary highway guide, warning, and regulatory signs.

The Shelter Directional sign shall be a horizontal rectangle, 750 x 600 mm (30 x 24 in). The identifying word and the word SHELTER, the directional arrow, the distance to the shelter, and the border shall be black on a white background.

Option:

The distance to the shelter may be omitted from the sign when appropriate.

Shelter Directional signs may carry one of the following legends, or others designating similar emergency facilities:

- A. EMERGENCY (EM-7a)
- B. HURRICANE (EM-7b)
- C. FALLOUT (EM-7c)
- D. CHEMICAL (EM-7d)

If appropriate, the name of the facility may be used.

The Shelter Directional signs may be installed on the Interstate Highway System or any other major highway system when it has been determined that a need exists for such signs as part of a State or local shelter plan.

The Shelter signs may be used to identify different routes to a shelter to provide for rapid movement of large numbers of persons.

Guidance:

The Shelter Directional sign should be used sparingly and only in conjunction with approved plans of State and local authorities.

As a general rule, the Shelter sign should not be posted more than 8 km (5 mi) from a shelter.